

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| U.S. National Phase Application |) | |
| of International Application No.: PCT/AU2005/000139 |) | |
| Inventor: Stephan Heinz Josef Victor WEBER |) | Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned |
| |) | |
| Application No.: Not Yet Assigned |) | Examiner: Not Yet Assigned |
| |) | |
| Filed: August 2, 2006 |) | |
| |) | |
| For: METALLURGICAL VESSEL |) | |

MAILSTOP PCT

**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and cited in the international search report. Copies of the listed foreign patent documents are attached. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO/SB/08 and are in a non-English language:

1. European Patent Application No. EP 0 052 039. English-language claims are present at columns 7-8 of this document.
2. Russian Patent Application No. SU 0840112. An English-language abstract is enclosed.
3. Japanese Patent Application No. JP 2003-279265. An English-language abstract is enclosed.
4. WIPO Patent Application No. WO 2004/106831. An English-language abstract is enclosed.
5. WIPO Patent Application No. WO 02/088398. An English-language abstract is enclosed.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or the translation of the non-English documents listed above, enclosed is an English-language international search report from the Australian Patent Office in the PCT international application, from which this national phase U.S. application is derived, citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the

appropriate status of such documents. Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: August 2, 2006

By: 

Ernest F. Chapman
Reg. No. 25,961

EFC/FPD/blc
Enclosures

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 IAP11 Rec'd PCT/PTO 02 AUG 2006

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| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO | | | | Complete if Known | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) | | | | Application Number | |
| | | | | Filing Date | August 2, 2006 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Stephan Heinz Josef Victor WEBER |
| | | | | Art Unit | |
| | | | | Examiner Name | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 02372.0097 |

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| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
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Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
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| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | Translation ⁶ |
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| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | |
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| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
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|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|